



White-Nose Syndrome: Information for Veterinarians and Wildlife Rehabilitators

If you have a bat brought in for treatment, are contacted about a possible sighting of dead bats, or have heard of bats behaving strangely, it is important to be well-informed about White-Nose Syndrome and its signs and symptoms.

For a complete description of White-Nose Syndrome, visit the US Fish and Wildlife Service website at <http://www.fws.gov/WhiteNoseSyndrome/about.html>

If you suspect a bat in Iowa possibly has been infected with White-Nose Syndrome, report the possible infection to any of the following organizations:

- Iowa Department of Natural Resources: daryl.howell@dnr.iowa.gov
- US Fish and Wildlife services (USFWS)
<http://www.fws.gov/WhiteNoseSyndrome/about.html>
1-800-344-9453
- ISU Wildlife Extension: christof@iastate.edu

After contacting the appropriate organization, you may be asked to collect the bat from the caller and/or submit the bat if it is dead for diagnostic testing at the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC).

When handling a bat with possible White-Nose Syndrome:

- Pick up the bat with a plastic bag over your gloved hand or use disposable gloves over thicker gloves.
- Place both the bat and the bag into another plastic bag, spray with disinfectant, close the bag securely, and dispose of it with your garbage.
- Thoroughly wash your hands and follow the [decontamination protocol](#) as described on the White-Nose Syndrome website of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.